



CITY OF COLUMBUS OSU INTERN UPDATE

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From Whittier to Near East, Interns Play Key Role

Interns work for the City of Columbus in numerous capacities. While most work primarily for Neighborhood Services in assisting their assigned Area Commissions and Civic Associations, interns have also done projects for other departments including the Planning Division and Building Services. Other interns work for the Office of Land Management and the Planning Division. The following are examples of the projects that interns have been working on in the past year:

- Worked on Whittier Peninsula Redevelopment Plan and coordinated activities with Columbus Recreation & Parks, Department of Utilities, City Administration, MetroParks, Audubon Ohio, and engineering, development, design, and market research firms.



OSU Interns, from left to right. Front row, Tom Lodge, Anne Hersch, Raimere Fitzpatrick, LaToya Grate, and Jake Boswell. Back row: Katherine Huss, Keisha Walker, Andrew Overbeck, Robert Lemon, and Andy Smith. Not pictured: Anoa Changa.

- Assisted city planners in meeting with various community groups and stakeholders to get input on the draft Near East Area Plan.

- Created RFQ/RFP reports for a number of properties including the Whitney Young redevelopment

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City and Regional Planning Internship Program Overview

Welcome to the fourth annual update on the City of Columbus/ Ohio State University City and Regional Planning Graduate Internship Program. This update will highlight the work of the interns in the past year. It is also a chance to touch base with neighborhood organizations, City officials and staff, and Ohio State University officials in wrapping up the current school year and preparing for the next.

In this issue, we will provide a summary of the internship program, an overview of intern accomplishments, and showcase other intern activities. Also

included are comments from past interns on how the program prepared them for their careers.

The two-fold purpose of the City of Columbus and the Ohio State University Graduate Internship Program is to provide graduate level students with practical and real research and community development experience to support the neighborhood initiatives of the City. For over 20 years the program has successfully prepared graduate-level students to enter into the planning profession and has provided Columbus' neighborhoods with the necessary technical assistance to address

many difficult challenges. Goals of the program include:

- ❖ Creating the most meaningful internship experience for participants;

- ❖ Supporting the Columbus Covenant and the Mayor's neighborhood priorities;

- ❖ Matching student interns with neighborhood-based projects that are well-defined and that are consistent with the Mayor's neighborhood agenda;

- ❖ Pairing students with Neighborhood Liaisons to work on projects identified as priorities of the neighborhood.

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OSU Interns Serve the Community

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project and other King Lincoln properties.

- Created a report on the role and process of eminent domain in Ohio for the Milo-Grogan Area Commission.



- Created a neighborhood report for the Southwest Area Commission that is to serve as a neighborhood guidebook and a pre-planning document.

- Prepared list of businesses and community groups to invite to participate in the Northeast Area Commission's Area Plan update.

- Participated in the economic development and revitalization project on James Road adjacent to Woodland Meadows and Motel One, the Main Street corridor between Bexley and Whitehall, and the Livingston-Courtright corridor.

- Created GIS maps of historic structures and structure age in Neighborhood Improvement Districts.

- Worked with city planners during the preliminary stages of updating the Northeast Area Commission's Area Plan.

- Worked on Greater Linden Development Corporation Community Housing Development Organization by-laws.

- Surveyed residents and businesses in the East Columbus Gateway Community in the N.C.R. District.

- Worked on the Greater Parsons Avenue Corridor Vision Plan.

- Created GIS maps of neighborhood groups in Area 7.

- Researched the East Columbus Gateway Community's demographics, housing stock, and commercial businesses.

- Developed density study and projections, physical site analysis, and graphic renderings for Whittier Peninsula Redevelopment Plan.

- Researched the EPA clean-up report for the Fifth Ave. Timken site.

- Conducted South Linden Alley lighting survey and created map for UIRF funds.

- Prepared property specification sheets for the sale of infill Land Bank sites.

- Prepared zoning maps for and took pictures during commercial node walking tours for the Near East Area Plan.



- Worked on neighborhood indicator and improvement programs; identified available funding for possible neighborhood improvement projects in the City of Columbus.

- Helped to update the Southwest Area Commission's bylaws.

- Created a presentation for City Council on civic associations and Neighborhood Services.

- Created GIS maps of community facilities, area commissions, and civic associations for Area 8.

- Worked with Southside

Settlement House to help start a youth program to help young people build marketable skills.

- Created GIS map of Victorian and Italian Villages.

- Created new brochure for Greater Hilltop Area.

- Prepared Historic Register Nomination for Evergreen Cemetery for the North Central Area Commission.

- Created GIS map of Fort Hayes Military base and surrounding area for the Milo-Grogan Area Commission.

- Compiled standards for the implementation checklist portion of the Near East Area Plan.

- Participated in the New American Task Force (created by the Northeast Area Commission as an avenue to promote unity amongst persons born in America and immigrants).

- Created document to highlight economic development goals in the East Columbus Gateway Community.

- Performed sustainable development research for market analysis of Whittier Peninsula Redevelopment Plan.

- Created large format maps for Milo-Grogan and North Central area commissions.

- Created GIS maps of Hilltop Commission Area and Southwest Area.

- Created GIS maps for the University Area Commission and Area 6.

- Performed research on ways to adaptively use Lazarus warehouse on Whittier Peninsula.

- Performed building code and zoning procedure research for Milo-Grogan

- Assisted with Clean Ohio grant applications for Whittier Peninsula Redevelopment Plan.

- Performed Long Street acquisition research.

- Performed Shannon Road redevelopment and preservation study.■

Interns Attend APA Conference in San Francisco

In March four OSU/City of Columbus interns traveled to San Francisco to attend the American Planning Association's National Planning Conference. From March 19-23 Tom Lodge, Anne Hersch, Katherine Huss, and Andrew Overbeck attended conference sessions, took in the sites of the city, and tried to avoid all the rain.

The conference boasted attendance from more than 6,000 planners, and close to 1,000 students attended the event this year. This year's conference had several focus topics including, Housing America, Planning for the Food System, and New Urbanism Comes of Age. "The convention provided a great opportunity to learn more about planning issues and practices," said Anne Hersch. "The sessions I attended varied in topics from eminent domain to form code zoning."

According to Tom Lodge the conference was an educational experience he will never forget. "Going to the conference provided me with a cultural and social experience that will be remembered for a lifetime," he said. "It gave me the opportunity to meet other planners and to see projects from around the country."

Interns have returned from San Francisco eager to share their newly found knowledge. "Learning about topics such as designing for density

and how to effectively communicate with community groups has already paid big dividends," said Andrew Overbeck. "The conference certainly gave me ideas that have helped me in my internship." ■



Photo by Tom Lodge

Cable cars aren't just for tourists; they are but one of the many public transportation options in San Francisco.

Former Intern Quotes

"The internship with the City of Columbus gave me the necessary professional experience to start a career in the fields of planning and historic preservation. While interning for Historic Preservation Office, I was exposed to architectural review commissions and to the different historic preservation programs in Columbus. I developed valuable community planning skills and GIS mapping abilities."

— *Parag Agrawal, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer, City of Columbus*

"Working as an intern for the City enabled me to apply my education to real-life situations."

— *Robb C. Watson, GIMS Specialist, Ohio Department of Natural Resources*

"The City of Columbus internship is the single greatest aspect of the CRP program, and it has prepared me well for my current job."

— *Steve Varga, Fairfax Virginia Department of Planning and Zoning.*

"My internship with the City of Columbus gave me an opportunity to apply the knowledge I was gaining in the classroom to the community I was working for. I was able to establish working relationships with other city departments and members of the community that helped me in my transition into the professional world. The skills I gained have provided a great benefit to me at my job now."

— *Michelle Kulikowski, Associate Planner, Village of Lombard, Illinois*

Program Overview

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Interns work an average of 240 hours per quarter, or about 24 hours per week during the fall, winter, and spring academic quarters. Interns are assigned to a Neighborhood Liaison and work on neighborhood projects in cooperation with the liaison and neighborhood group or Area Commission. Intern offices are located in the Department of Development's Division of Neighborhood Services (Beacon Building). Work stations are also used at the City's Planning Division offices (109 North Front Street) and three interns work at Neighborhood Pride Centers. Interns may therefore work at any of these locations, but also spend considerable time working in their assigned neighborhood. ■



City of Columbus
Michael B. Coleman, Mayor
Department of Development
Mark Barbash, Director
50 W. Gay Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Contact Information

Interns

Interns can be reached by calling (614) 645-0713. If prompted, please leave a message and state exactly which intern you wish to have return your call. Please remember the interns' schedules are variable and time sensitive messages may not be returned the same day.

Comments

Please direct comments or suggestions about the internship program to Mike Puckett at (614) 645-3219 or mjpuckett@columbus.gov

2005-2006 Continuing Interns

Anoa Changa, Area 2, MCRP* Candidate Fall 2005
Raimere Fitzpatrick, Area 7, MCRP Candidate 2006
Katherine Huss, Area 12, MCRP Candidate 2006
Robert Lemon, Areas 2 and 4, MCRP Candidate 2006
Keisha Walker, Area 5, MCRP Candidate 2006

* Masters of City and Regional Planning

2004-2005

Graduating Interns

- Stephen Varga, Area 6, MCRP Winter 2005
- LaToya Grate, Area 11, MCRP, MPPM*, Spring 2005
- Anne Hersch, MCRP Spring 2005
- Tom Lodge, Office of Land Management, MCRP Spring 2005
- Andrew Overbeck, Area 8, MCRP Spring 2005
- Andy Smith, Planning Division, MCRP, Spring 2005
- Jake Boswell, Area 9, MCRP, MLA**, Spring 2007

* Masters of Public Policy and Management

** Masters of Landscape Architecture